

**Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes**

October 20, 2005
3:00 p.m.

Monday Afternoon Club
Willows, CA

Chair Marc Faye called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m., followed by self-introductions. It was determined there was a quorum of voting members present (underlined).

<u>County</u>	<u>Public Interest</u>	<u>Landowner</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Butte	(Jane Dolan)	<u>Shirley Lewis</u>	
Colusa	(Gary Evans)	(Ben Carter)	
Glenn	<u>Denny Bungarz</u>	<u>Don Anderson</u>	
Shasta	<u>Glenn Hawes</u>	<u>Dan Gover</u>	
Sutter	(Dan Silva)	(Russell Young)	
Tehama	<u>Ron Warner</u>	<u>Brendon Flynn</u>	
Yolo	(Duane Chamberlain)	<u>Marc Faye</u>	
Resources Agency			<u>Jim McKeivitt</u>
Cal DWR			Stacy Cepello
Cal DFG			Diana Jacobs
State Reclamation Board			(Pete Rabbon)
USF&WS			Ken Sanchez
USCOE			(Mark Charlton)
Bureau of Reclamation			Frank Michny

Names listed in parentheses represent absences
Manager Burt Bundy
Assistant Ellen Gentry
Resource Conservation Assistant Beverley Anderson-Abbs

Other identified attendees: Tracy McReynolds, Department of Fish & Game (CDFG); Jeff Sutton, Family Water Alliance (FWA); Scott Clemons, Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB); Mike Harvey, Mussetter Engineering, Inc.; Paul Ward, CDFG; Christy Scofield, Colusa County Supervisor; Anjanette Martin, Glen County Farm Bureau; Marilyn Cundiff, WCB; John Merz, Sacramento River Preservation Trust (SRPT); Les Heringer, M&T; Todd Manley, NCWA; Keith Hansen, Glenn County Supervisor, Olen Zirkle, Ducks Unlimited (DU); Joe Navari, DU; Casey Walsh Cady, CDFA; Jeannie Blakeslee, Department of Conservation; Chris Leininger, DU; Richard Theriot and David Sieperda, Llano Seco Ranch; Sandy Morey, CDFG; Vickie Newlin, CA Bay-Delta Authority; Jim Saake, Northern CA Regional Land Trust.

2. Unscheduled matters - Diana Jacobs introduced Sandy Morey, the new Regional 2 Manager for CDFG.

John Merz, SRPT, reviewed the agenda for the State of the Sacramento River Watershed Conference, scheduled for Thursday and Friday, October 27-28, at the Red Bluff Community Center, 1500 South Jackson St., in Red Bluff. More information is available by calling the Trust or by visiting www.sacrivertrust.org.

3. Consent Calendar – Glenn Hawes moved to adopt the minutes of the July 21, 2005 and September 15, 2005 meetings, and to accept the Executive Committee meeting notes for the July 21, 2005, August 11, 2005, August 25, 2005 and September 15, 2005 meetings, seconded by Ron Warner. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Agency Reports – Stacy Cepello reported the Resources Agency has released a 14-point science-based framework to address declines in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta's native fish species. The Delta Smelt action plan is looking at pelagic organism decline (POD). Further information is available on the DWR website.

Burt announced he received a call from Ben Carter, a new appointee to the State Reclamation Board, that their meeting was running late. Consequently, Ben and Pete Rabbon will not be able to attend today's meeting.

5. TAC Report and Recommendations

Big Chico Creek – Project Tracker #92. Stacy reported the Big Chico Creek project made its report at the October 4, 2005 TAC meeting, resulting in changes to the original plan (i.e., environmental camping areas, and trespassing issues). John Merz expressed concern because this project is coming before their declaration release, and that the environmental review should be a part of the technical review. Stacy noted Big Chico Creek has completed the process and that the TAC is limited to the confines of the SRCAF handbook. Brendon Flynn added the charge of the SRCAF is to determine meeting with the goals and principles of the handbook. Brendon moved to send a letter to the proponent indicating it has met with the guidelines and principles of the SRCAF handbook, Ron Warner seconded. Discussion ensued regarding input into the current design which could change through the environmental process. Jim McKeivitt noted the issues in question were resolved. Brendon added that it is incumbent on the proponent if things change as a result of the environmental review process. Dan Gover suggested the board hear any future changes. Brendon modified the motion to include notification of future changes. Ron Warner, having seconded the motion, agreed. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Llano Seco Conservation Easement – Project Tracker #94. Scott Clemons, WCB, introduced Jim Saake, Northern CA Regional Land Trust, who gave a presentation on this conservation easement. Jim reported the landowners involved responded favorably and that intensive agricultural land and maintenance areas are involved. Burt asked about any loss of taxes raised by Butte County. Dave Sieperda, Llano Seco, pointed out that the property is in the Williamson Act, so there will be no change in taxes with this easement. Jeannie Blakeslee, Dept. of Conservation, noted that in the project description the land is to remain under private ownership and under the Williamson Act contract. She added the directed action documentation is on the Calwater restoration program website (www.calwater.ca.gov). Glen Hawes moved to send a letter to the proponent indicating it has met with the guidelines and principles of the SRCAF handbook, Ron Warner seconded. Scott Clemons will present the project at the TAC in November. John Merz noted mapping errors regarding the spelling of Stony Creek and the location of Hwy. 45. Jeff Sutton, FWA, questioned the policy of spending Prop 50 money, specifically directed to Working Landscapes, on purchasing easements instead of pursuing landowner incentives. Diana Jacobs explained, briefly, the Prop. 50 ecosystem restoration program, the duties of the implementing agency and this project's consistency within the river zone under the purview of the board. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

M&T Llano Seco Pumping Plant - Project Tracker #93. Olen Zirkle, DU, introduced Mike Harvey, MEI, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the project's stone toe and brush revetment as an interim solution. Mike pointed out that the short term project can be removed, but it would allow time to find long term alternative solutions to protect the pumping plant, which provides water to agriculture and key wildlife. John Merz noted the City of Chico plans to move their outfall downstream, but they are also open to staying. John stated the Sacramento River Preservation Trust thinks this project is premature and is opposed until the environmental impacts are made available for the review process at the TAC. At the last TAC meeting, Chris Leininger commented that once the environmental document comes out, the TAC will be given an opportunity for review. Brendon Flynn reviewed the SRCAF handbook and stated that project fits within the principles and guidelines. Denny Bungarz moved to send a letter to the proponent indicating it has met with the guidelines and principles of the SRCAF handbook, Brendon Flynn seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Stacy Cepello added this has been a significant effort and that the board unanimously agrees it does not support one process over another. Burt thanked Les Heringer for his assistance in writing a letter to be sent to agencies working on the permit. Burt will work with Les, Diana and Marc for a final letter to be sent ASAP.

6. Board Committee Reports

Burt gave the Manager's Report (available in board folders), noting the annual report will be available at the January meeting and an Advisory Council meeting will be scheduled. Denny Bungarz is Chair of the Advisory Council. Notification of the date for the council meeting and annual report will be given in December.

SRCAF is required by board policy to send out notices to each county when appointments are due. Burt will be working with board development on that letter. Nominations of officers will include the vacancy of the TAC chair, at the meeting in November. Each county alternates one appointment each year. New officers and board members will be introduced at the January 19 meeting.

7. Future Meeting Dates

The next executive board meeting is scheduled for November 17. Members will be notified in advance if this will be a conference call.

The next board meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2005. The following meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2005.